

Docket No.:

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION - JOINT**

As the below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses, and citizenships are as stated below next to our names.

We believe that we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled "Biodegradable polymeric compositions comprising starch and a thermoplastic polymer"....., the specification of which is attached hereto.

We hereby state that we reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56.

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 United States Code §§ 119 and 365 of any foreign application(s) for the patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Applications: Italy ... No. T096A000890 of ... November 5, 1996 ... and No. T096A000996 of December 9, 1996

We hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Maurice B. Stiefel, Reg. No. 18,479; Marc S. Gross, Reg. No. 19,614; Lawrence G. Kurland, Reg. No. 24,895; Stephen P. Gilbert, Reg. No. 27,893; Joseph E. Root, III, Reg. No. 30,678, Elizabeth M. Barnhard, Reg. No. 31,088, and Birgit E. Morris, Reg. No. 24,484. Also, N. Whitney Wilson, Reg. No. 38661.

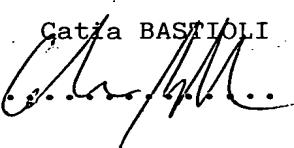
Address all telephone calls to N. Whitney Wilson at telephone number (212) 692-1800.

Address all correspondence to:
N. Whitney Wilson

Bryan, Cave, McPheevers & McRoberts
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New York, New York 10167

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of First Inventor: Catia BASTIOLI

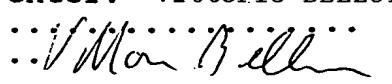
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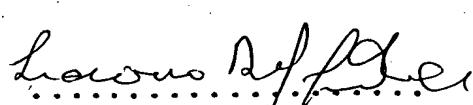
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